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MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, Committee on Overhead
Reconnaissance

SUBJECT: LANYARD Target List

REFERENCE: TCS 0054-63KH (Attachment to COMOR
44/22; dated 5 February 1963)

1. The COMOR priority list for project LANYARD targets was used for mission 8001. I believe this list is a step in the right direction. However, it does have some limitations that can best be evaluated by giving you a short resume of the camera program.

2. As you know, this mission, being the first in the LANYARD series, is primarily an engineering venture and we hope it will answer many questions that are presently in the minds of those associated with satellite development. For this reason, the first day's program is limited to vertical photography because, through mutual agreement, the roll joint will remain locked until after pass 16. This decision severely limited the first day's capability for coverage of targets as specified on the LANYARD target list.

3. In addition to the above, this mission is limited to the use of descending passes because of the illumination available this time of year.

4. The total number of LANYARD targets provided by COMOR was 225. Due to the limitations outlined in paragraphs 2. and 3. above, as well as the system's limitations, it was only possible to program 106 of the targets for mission 8001 or less than 50 per cent.

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5. To remove the possibility of recovering the capsule without expending all of the film, passes were evaluated over the latest CORONA targets and additional operations were planned.

6. For future operations, you should bear in mind that ascending passes will increase the capability approximately 40 per cent when maximum illumination permits. However, there are always those targets which cannot be covered due to system's limitations. In addition, some of the operations will be denied because of unfavorable forecast weather. To overcome these difficulties an expansion of the target list geographically would be in the best interest.

7. I bring this matter to your attention to show that the targeting list could be expanded if you and your committee feel national requirements justify it.

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JACK C. LEDFORD
Colonel USAF
Assistant Director
(Special Activities)

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OSA/OD/[]:ph (12 Feb 63)

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